

XII.—A new Genus of Fruit-Bats and Two new Shrews from Africa. By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

(Published by permission of the Trustees of the British Museum.)

CASINYCTERIS, gen. nov.

External characters, including even coloration, precisely as in *Scotonycteris*. The ears larger than in *S. zenkeri*. Wings reticulated, said to be orange-coloured in the fresh state.

Skull at once distinguishable from that of *Scotonycteris* by its palate being markedly shortened posteriorly and the bony floor to the long mesopterygoid fossa completely obsolete, so that the palation is practically at the level of the back of the single molar. In *Scotonycteris* there is the usual elongated palate. Palatal edge forming a reversed **W** (**M**), the median angle in continuation with a long and high vomerine ridge. Rostrum shorter in proportion than in *Scotonycteris*, bony palate more arched mesially, zygomata more abruptly expanded, postorbital processes and general cranial ridges more strongly developed. Rami of lower jaw thickened and expanded.

Dental formula as in *Scotonycteris*.

Teeth in a general way high, pointed, shorter in section antero-posteriorly, broader transversely than in *Scotonycteris*. Canines very long, curved, flattened. Cheek-teeth, both upper and lower, with the inner cusp well developed and separate, instead of being suppressed or joined to the outer as in *Scotonycteris*; this is especially noticeable in p_3 , the inner cusp being distinct, two-thirds the height of the outer, while in *Scotonycteris* the outer and inner enamel-ridges of the tooth are smoothly continuous with each other.

Type. *Casinycteris argynnis*, sp. n.

This striking bat, which adds another to the long list of new genera discovered by Mr. Bates, is remarkable for possessing a palate quite unlike that of other fruit-eating bats, and more recalling that found in some of the Microchiroptera. The astonishing resemblance of the type species to *Scotonycteris zenkeri* is also noticeable. Probably both bats bear a protective resemblance to the leaves, fresh or dry, of some local tree.

Casinycteris argynnis, sp. n.

General external appearance—at least in the dried state—precisely as in *Scotonycteris zenkeri*, except that the size is

materially larger, and the ears are also larger. Fur soft and fine, the general mass of the hairs about 8 mm. in length on the back, but with other longer hairs, attaining 13-14 mm., intermixed with them. Colour above about as in *S. zenkeri*, the hairs brown at base, then greyish white, with pale russet-brown tips. Head with the brown and white markings more strongly defined than in that animal, the ground-colour a little darker, the white patches prominent, present between the eyes, at the posterior angle of the eyes, at the anterior bases of the ears, and along the upper lips. In all other respects, in colour, degree of hairiness, and the marked reticulation of the wings, *C. argyris* is so like *S. zenkeri* as not to need detailed description.

At least this is the case so far as dried specimens are concerned, but Mr. Bates states that in the fresh state the wings, ears, eyelids, and muzzle were "bright orange colour," and some traces of yellow are still present on such parts of the type as have been protected from light. Possibly the same may be the case with *Scotonycteris*, but we have no evidence on the subject.

Dimensions of the type (the body and ear measurements taken in the flesh):—

Forearm 60 mm.

Head and body 95; ear 20; index finger (c. u.) 44.5; third finger, metacarpus 41, first phalanx 28, second phalanx 36; lower leg and foot (c. u.) 40.

Skull: greatest length 28.3; basal length 25; zygomatic breadth 20; interorbital breadth 5.2; tip to tip of postorbital processes 11.7; brain-case, breadth 13.6; palatal length 10.6; post-palatal length 14.4; front of canine to back of m^1 9.2.

Hab. Biteye, Ja River, S.E. Kameruns. Alt. 2000'.

Type. Adult female. Original number 502. Collected 19th November, 1909, by Mr. G. L. Bates.

Crocidura turba provocax, subsp. n.

A short-tailed mountain form of *C. t. zaodon* *.

Colour dark, slightly darker than in true *turba*, and agreeing with that described in *zaodon*; underparts brown, without the distinct greyish wash down the middle line of the belly found in *turba*. Tail as short as in *turba*, black, the long hairs light grey.

Skull with a distinctly broader brain-case than in *turba*; teeth slightly heavier, the large second incisor not so long horizontally.

* Osgood, Publ. Field Mus. x. p. 21 (1910).

Dimensions of the type:—

Head and body 96 mm.; tail 51; hind foot (s. u) 15·5; ear 10·5.

Skull, condylo-incisive length 24·3; breadth of brain-case 10·2; maxillary breadth 7·5; upper tooth-row 10·4.

Hab. Aberdare Mts., British East Africa. Alt. 11,000'.

Type. Adult male. Rudd Collection. B.M. no. 10.5.3.25. Original number 595. Collected 5th February, 1910, by R. Kemp. Nine specimens.

The very short tail of this species will distinguish it from the Nairobi *C. t. zaodon*, with which it agrees in the characters used to distinguish that form from the Bangweolo *C. turba*. Ten specimens of *zaodon* average 60 mm. in tail-length, with a minimum of 56, while eight examples of *provocax* average 49·6, with a maximum of 53.

Sylvisorex somereni, sp. n.

A giant *Sylvisorex*, rivalling in proportions the largest species of *Crocidura*.

Size immensely larger than in the other species of *Sylvisorex*, all of which are quite small shrews. Fur very long, soft, and rather woolly, not crisp, ordinary hairs of back about 11–12 mm. in length; mixed with these hairs there are a considerable number of longer hairs, 15–16 mm. in length, these being most numerous on the posterior back. A small lateral gland present. General colour above uniform "smoke-grey," slightly paler anteriorly, darker posteriorly, the hairs slaty grey with dull buffy-whitish tips; under surface with the bases of the hairs darker slaty, and their tips more suffused with isabella. End of muzzle, ears, upper surface of hands and feet blackish brown. Tail shorter than head and body, without longer bristles, its short fine hairs brown above and at the end, dull whitish proximally.

Skull nearly twice as long lineally, and many times as large in bulk, as that of the next largest species of the genus, *S. lunaris*. In correlation with this great increase in size, the lambdoid crests are enormously developed and extended backwards, surpassing posteriorly on each side the level of the condyles, and continuous with a posterior extension of the lateral temporal crests, the whole masseteric area forming a sort of shield on each side of the brain-case bordered by the sharp edges of the crests; on the top of the skull, however, the muscular regions do not meet to form a median sagittal crest, as they do in large *Crocidinæ*. The surface of the bone of this masseteric area is strongly pitted and sculptured,

a parallel to this occurring alone in *Crocidura goliath*. Par-occipital process modified into a ridge, distinct from and parallel with the main masseteric ridge outside it. Lacrymal foramen large, with expanded and overhanging lip.

Teeth as usual, the fourth unicuspid slightly smaller than the subequal second and third.

Dimensions of the type (measured in skin) :—

Head and body (probably shrunk) 120 mm. ; tail 68 ; hind foot (wet) 23 ; ear (wet) 13.

Skull, condylo-incisive * length 33·7 ; condylo-basal length 33 ; greatest breadth 14·2 ; anterior breadth across palate 10·1 ; palatal length 15·2 ; upper tooth-row 15·3 ; tip of i^1 to tip of p^4 8·1 ; lower tooth-row 14.

Hab. Kyetume, near Kampala, Uganda.

Type. Adult female. B.M. no. 10.5.21.1. Collected by Dr. R. van Someren, and presented through his brother Mr. V. G. van Someren.

This remarkable shrew is so disproportionately larger than the other members of *Sylvisorex* that it has developed skull-characters which one was at first disposed to consider as of generic value. But *Crocidura goliath* gives us in that genus so close a parallel in these characters of skull-ridges and sculpturing to what is found in *S. somereni* that the latter may safely be assigned to *Sylvisorex*, with the expectation that other intermediate species will presently turn up.

XIII.—*A new Cavernicolous Cockroach.*

By R. SHELFORD, M.A., F.L.S.

Subfam. *CORYDIINÆ*.

ALLUAUDELLA, gen. nov.

Size minute. Antennæ elongate, setaceous. Palpi long and slender. Eyes reduced. Pronotum discoidal, anteriorly not covering vertex of head. Tegmina and wings considerably exceeding apex of abdomen, identical in texture and clothed with a delicate recumbent pubescence. Tegmina with mediastinal vein short, radial vein bifurcate from base, costals entirely absent, anterior ulnar simple, posterior ulna triramose, one vena spuria between the radial and anterior ulnar veins, anal vein straight, anal field much reduced, one

* To front convex surface of incisors.